The Suffragist

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OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1917

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Drawn by Nina E. Allender

"Distant Birds Have Bonny Feathers"

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Notes of the Week

Hope in Russia

ALL of us who love liberty, who believe in political and social and industrial democracy, are now looking with eager hope to Russia. And not only for your sakes, but for our own sakes, we beg you, exactly as by courage and disinterestedness you have forced through the revolution, so by wisdom and self-control to secure for your country the permanent benefits of the revolution."

Count Tolstoy left New York for Russia last week carrying this message to his people from Mr. Roosevelt.

That this same feeling is shared by great numbers of English men and women was testified to on March 31 by one of the biggest rallies ever held in England, an account of which has just reached the New York *Evening Post* by special correspondence. This meeting in London, which called ten thousand people together and turned away thousands more, ignored by every paper except one in England, passed a resolution calling upon Great Britain and every country, neutral and belligerent, "to follow the Russian example by establishing industrial freedom, freedom of speech and the press, the abolition of social, religious, and national inequalities, and immediate amnesty for political and religious offences, and universal suffrage."

Lovers of democracy in the United States and in England must look, indeed, to Russia to establish and prove democracy to their own governments.

Women Recruited for Industry

THE Pennsylvania Railroad, the New York Central, the Erie, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and the Baltimore and Ohio are some of the railroads that are laying plans for using women in place of men needed for war and are already training women. According to railway heads women will be used for ticket selling, telegraphy, signalling, train despatching, and the lighter kinds of machine shop work.

The Consolidated Gas Company, the Boston Elevated Railway, Armour and Company are among other big organizations counting on women's work. In almost every case men enlisting are promised their positions back at the end of the war.

This transferring of work from men to women will raise serious questions, such as wages and unionism. Employers are meeting the situation with calculation. Employees must use as much forethought and must protect themselves from the start. Equal pay for equal work and efficient organization are necessary. Organization must be backed up by the franchise to make it efficient. The government has so far given no consideration to its vast service army of women.

Women in Farm Labor

SECRETARY of Labor Wilson has a plan for mobilizing extra workers to fill the big emergency call for farm work this summer due to the war and the need of intensified agricultural production. Factory, shop, mine and office workers, volunteering for their vacations or for the time their work is shut down in the dull season, will be transferred, according to his plan, to communities where harvest work is most pressing. In this way larger crops can be grown and indoor workers will be given a chance to spend a few weeks in the fields at good wages.

If this plan is carried out women will doubtless take full advantage of it, both women glad of extra work and women volunteering as a patriotic duty. News comes from Miss Winona Bailey of Washington that serious labor shortage in that and other Western states has already started a movement for women in Washington to do this work. Miss Bailey herself, a teacher, mountain climber, and editor of *The Mountaineer* plans to spend her vacation in crop gathering.

The Eight-Hour Law in Illinois

THE Women's Eight-hour Bill in Illinois has been killed by the Industrial Affairs Committee in the lower house of the legislature by a vote of fifteen to nine. The kind of consideration given the bill in this state is evidenced by the fact that one of the opponents of the bill argued that in many occupations women could not make a living wage by working an eight-hour day.

Illinois legislators are not elected by women. The five states already under the eight-hour law are all equal suffrage states, Arizona, California, Colorado, Washington and Oregon. All but one of these states, Arizona, have also passed the minimum wage law for women.

One of the Great Moments in History

MR. BALFOUR, British commissioner, in a speech this week to the House of Representatives emphasized democracy and the oneness of purpose shown in the extending of free government by the American and the English Houses, "the two greatest and oldest of the free assemblies of the world."

He went on to say:

"In that cause (the overcoming of militarism by democracy) we shall surely conquer and our children will look back to this fateful date as the one from which democracies can feel secure that their progress, their civilization, their rivalry, if need be, will be conducted, not on German lines, but in the free and friendly spirit which really befits the age in which we live."

President Wilson in the gallery of the House led the applause at this point of Mr. Balfour's address. Is it possible that it was not brought home to Mr. Wilson then that he has it in his power by backing the federal suffrage amendment to make this in fact the date of full democracy in this country?

War and Women in Germany

SINCE the beginning of the war three million illegitimate children have been born in Germany. Dr. Engel, an alderman in Berlin, makes this statement in the Berlin *Tageblatt*.

The German government, eager for a vigorous increase in the birth rate, is glad to recognize and provide for these children. Hospital care is given women during confinement and a month's or six weeks' vacation from work on full pay. The government is making plans to legitimatize these children under the mothers' names. A proposal is also under consideration for their state support.

German women will probably protest the government's usurpation of the mother's right of support. They are already protesting against the government movement to encourage reproduction as a patriotic duty to the country. At the last annual convention of the German Empire Woman Suffrage Union one large public meeting was given over to a discussion of "Women's Demands and a Population Policy." Four speakers put the women's case from different sides—demanding full parental power for the mother with the father; the reduction of prostitution and venereal disease: the doing away of all unjustifiable barriers to marriage and the wiping out of the stigma on unmarried mothers and their children; and the avoidance of any population policy out of harmony with women's right to decide their own destiny freely and tending to reduce women to objects without will.

German Social Democrats Move for Universal Suffrage

PROPOSALS for democratic reform submitted by German parties to the Constitution Committee of the Reichstag, according to a cable to the New York *Times*, include a proposition of the Social Democrats for "the extension of the franchise throughout the Empire to all men and women over twenty years of age."

The Constitution Committee has already adopted three proposals which it will submit to the Reichstag as suggested constitutional amendments to limit the authority of the Emperor.

All the news from Germany heaps up evidence as to the force of the movement for self-government in that country.

Heard on the Firing Line

By Alice Henkle

Captain of the Picket on Congress

HERE at the Capitol, day after day, week in and week out, from twelve noon to five we stand, four silent sentinels, holding our purple, white and gold banners, a legislative reminder that millions of American women at this critical time in the history of our nation are still unenfranchised.

Crowds of visitors pass us every day on their way to Congress—strangers from every part of this country; great diplomats from foreign countries; school-boys and girls; sight-seeing busses filled with tourists; Senators, Representatives, government employees, pleasure-seekers. All see the picket on Congress and all read our banners—"England and Russia are enfranchising women in war-time." "How long must American women wait for liberty?"

Many stop to ask questions or give a word of encouragement to the women sentinels. For we pickets have won hundreds of friends in every part of the country in our stand at the Capitol and at the White House,—and the number increases daily.

"More power to you," called out an Irish Revolutionary group, on a visit to the Capitol the other day,—young women and men who have fled from their country, expatriates of liberty, following the Easter uprising of more than a year ago. Molly Connelly, the daughter of the executed Irish leader, who escaped to this country under another name, was among the group enthusiastic over the stand American women are taking for liberty.

One charming little lady as she passes to her work every day never fails to stop and tell us how proud she is of the pickets in Washington, and how glad she would be if she too could bear witness with her banner.

CONGRESSMEN and Senators, at first too bashful to voice their sentiments in regard to the picket, now cross the street to raise their hats and tell us they are for liberty for American women. Workmen repairing the street learned for the first time that the liberty of women was before the Congress of the United States. They discussed the matter from their trenches, and finally, as proof of their faith in the picket that they as labor men understood, they devised and made supports for the picket banners to make them easier to hold on these windy spring days. They even offered to make benches for us to sit on as we held the banners; but agreed with us when we told them that sentinels must stand at their posts.

Every day an elderly woman passes in an imposing limousine who waves and claps her gloved hands. Once she stopped—it was a wet gray day—and said: "How wonderful you are, and how glad I am to be able to help you a little! You have in your organization the finest, cleverest young women in the world, and I love you all!" And as she returned to her car after shaking hands with each picket the sun burst out like a good omen.

The tiny incidents that make up the picket's day all point to the end of our long waiting. Boy scouts, little children, spell out the banners and ask their meaning, and we give them new little lessons in real democracy. A young man the other day exclaimed as he waved his hat, "I take off my hat to those colors now wherever I see them!"

Miss Alice Henkle
On Duty at the Capitol

The policemen on the beat are with us. One officer stopped the other day after telephoning at the near police-box and said: "You are making friends every minute. Stick to it. Don't give it up. We're with you and admire your pluck."

Six boys from a Massachusetts school one day recently came up and heard the meaning of our colors and our slogans. On leaving they raised their hats as by one impulse and sang out: "You ought to have it now. We see our Congressman tonight at dinner, and the first thing we are going to say to him is, 'Vote for the Federal Suffrage Amendment'."

AND from our purple, white and gold line we recruit as well as picket. Two women walked by smiling curiously one day; then they walked back again, and finally said, "We want to help you picket! We heard about the suffrage picket and came to see it because we thought it was funny; but we changed our minds when we saw you." Those women from far states have been helping ever since.

Even the antis have been moved by the suffrage picket. A beautiful woman asked us one day just what we believed we were accomplishing, and we told her of the rising tide of sentiment for the amendment. "I am an anti-suffragist," she said. "I have never been impressed by suffragists before. But the sincerity you express in being willing to stand here in all weathers for the thing you believe in makes me believe there is something in the suffrage fight after all!"

A man with the same type of mind said, "I really believe you are in earnest! At first I thought you were doing this for fun, but the way you stick to it, rain or shine, makes me feel that you mean business and are bound to win."

A lovely young Rhode Island girl volunteered for duty the other day. Her mother told us afterwards that it had been the proudest hour of her daughter's life. "She was never interested in suffrage before. Now she is going home to work for the federal amendment right in her home town."

One of our pickets one day removed her rain-soaked gloves, and a passing Congressman immediately noticed her cold hands. "I see one of the soldiers in the trenches has lost her gloves," he said. "Allow me to contribute a pair." He was told we wanted only the votes of Congressmen, not their gloves.

Another Congressman, who in the early days of our picket at the Capitol remonstrated with us for our protest for women, called out to us the other day as he passed, "That's right; keep it up; don't let us forget you for a moment!"

And his attitude today is typical of the attitude of this congress as a whole. At first we had to take our large heavy banners daily to the Capitol in an auto; now we are allowed to keep them in the House Office Building! The pickets first came to Congress; now Congress is coming to the pickets.

And so they come and go—some wondering, a few deriding, the great mass helping and encouraging. We who stand holding those banners every day know that, once seen, men and women do not forget our purple, white and gold flags. They have come to symbolize our insistent demand for justice.

Suffrage Pushed as a War Measure

Mr. Adolph Lewisohn Speaks for National Suffrage

ONE of the notable suffrage meetings of last week was held in New York at the home of Mr. Adolph Lewisohn, with Miss Maude Younger of California, Miss Julia Marlowe and Mr. Henry Moskowitz, Civil Service Commissioner, as the speakers. With the purpose of urging national suffrage as a war measure, the meeting was called a "patriotic meeting" and was attended by three hundred men and women.

The meeting was held in the Lewisohn ballroom, a beautiful apartment a duplicate of which on a smaller scale holds the Bishop jade collection in the Metropolitan Museum. Mr. Lewisohn opened the meeting, taking a stand for suffrage at the present time as a proof of our democracy.

"I am fully convinced," said Mr. Lewisohn, "that it is for the benefit of mankind that women should have equal suffrage, equal rights with men everywhere, certainly now all over the United States, and we are committing a crime against civilization by delaying it. It should be a federal enactment as much as anti-slavery legislation or child labor legislation. The federal amendment certainly should pass . . . I hope and trust there will be no further delay, that we are soon to have a true democracy for men and women alike, in the United States and all over the civilized world."

Miss Younger's account of the political development of the Woman's Party, and its intensive work in the Capital with the politicians of the nation was enthusiastically received. Recitations by Miss Marlowe and by Miss Kitty Cheatham followed. Miss Marlowe asked for funds for suffrage, herself contributing one hundred dollars "to keep the suffrage watch-fires burning bright at this time" and helped pass the collection basket. A large sum was collected and pledged and many women who had had no realization of the present political battle for suffrage joined the Woman's Party.

Among the patronnesses were Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. John Winters Brannan, Mrs. Lewis L. Delafield, Mrs. Elon Huntington Hooker, Mrs. Frederick C. Howe and Mrs. Marcus Marks.

Suffrage Ford to Organize Through Eleven States

WE will fight for the thing we hold nearest our hearts, for democracy—the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments."

This phrase from President Wilson's war message to Congress has become the slogan of the Suffrage Ford which is being run through the suffrage states by Miss Margaret Whittemore and Miss Margery Ross, national organizers of the Woman's Party, on an organization trip that is growing in scope as it becomes more successful.

Joined by Mrs. Katherine Knight in Los Angeles, following the southern California meetings, the speakers pioneered for suffrage through the Sacramento Valley, speaking in small towns and making two-day stops in the larger towns.

"It is a thoroughly constructive campaign," writes Miss Whittemore. "California women are realizing that the party is preparing for the possible Woman's Party campaign of 1918 when the suffrage organization will tilt against that party that has opposed the enfranchisement of American women."

The car carries the slogan by President Wilson as well as gay decorations in the purple, white and gold colors of the Party with the American flag. Large meetings were held in Redlands, San Bernardino and Fresno. In Fresno, a meeting was arranged by Mrs. George S. Taylor, the local chairman, when the "suffrage first and now" policy was outlined. "We want suffrage granted this session of Congress," said Miss Whittemore. "It is a war measure as vital and pressing as any other that has come up in the last few weeks. If President Wilson will help us at this time we will end the wasteful state fight for suffrage, and be better prepared to serve at this time."

So warm has been the welcome of the Suffrage Ford that the scope of the trip originally planned has broadened, and will probably include eleven Western suffrage states. Following the California program, the two young women will visit all of the larger towns of Washington, Oregon and Nevada, next holding state conferences in Montana, Wyoming and Colorado and ending the Ford trip in Kansas before Congress adjourns.

Miss Ross and Miss Whittemore have become excellent chauffeurs and mechanicians on the trip, doing their own repairing and driving, and missing no opportunity to make federal suffrage converts on the high-road.

Miss Whittemore and Miss Ross Put a Tire on the Suffrage Ford

Indiana Suffragists Join Woman's Party

THE realization of both suffrage and non-suffrage states that nation-wide suffrage, on the horizon abroad, must be agitated at home at this time, is being grasped not only by individual women but by large groups whose union adds strength to the renewed demand for democracy in America.

In Indiana the New Castle Equal Franchise League, one of the powerful organizations of the state, affiliated with the National Woman's Party as a body, a step that is especially interesting politically in a state that has just granted Presidential suffrage to women.

The Indiana group affiliated with the Woman's Party after the brief but virile campaign of Miss Eleanor Barker and Miss Mabel Vernon in that state this month. The officers of the New Castle branch of the Woman's Party are: Mrs. Allegra Bufkin, chairman; Mrs. E. G. McQuinn, Mrs. Elsa K. Goodwin, Mrs. Maude Hudelson, Mrs. Walter S. Chambers and Mrs George A. Elliott, vice-chairmen; Miss Eva Moore, secretary; Mrs. O. L. Carithers, treasurer, Miss Eva Gough, press chairman, Mrs. Myrtle Gunder, SUFFRAGIST chairman; Mrs. A. D. Ogden, membership chairman; Miss Helen Jeffrey, headquarters chairman.

THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY AMENDMENT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on April 4, 1917, by Senators Thompson, Owen, Jones and Shafroth.
In the House, on April 2, 1917 by Representatives Raker, Rankin, Mondell, Keating and Hayden.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.
In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1916, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916. Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).
March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Suffragist

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Taxation without Representation

THE new war tax bill was this week presented to the House of Representatives by the Committee of Ways and Means with plans for its quick enactment. This special war tax is designed to raise $1,800,000,000. This sum is levied in addition to the regular billion and a half of yearly taxation.

We face now the biggest taxation ever asked of the American people. It means a tax of thirty-three dollars for every man, woman and child in the United States.

In reporting this bill to the House, Chairman Kitchin said:

"I believe that when this bill is written into the statute books the wealthy man and the poor man will stand by the bill and say, 'I'm willing to pay my part'."

Mr. Kitchin—the government—cannot thus ignore women. Women as well as men will take the straining of their resources by this tax as a patriotic duty to be fulfilled. Women even more than men will feel the pinch of this tax at every turn every day.

It is a tax designed to come straight into every household. It will be put upon household light and heat, on the telephone, on newspapers, on tea and coffee. Tariff on all imports will raise the price of almost every necessity to be bought. Income taxes, to be levied now on incomes over two thousand dollars for married, one thousand dollars for unmarried persons, will strike hard at women managing family purses and will affect salaried women as the income tax has never affected them before.

Nothing could so clearly exhibit the blind injustice of this government toward women as the passage of this enormous tax measure while it postpones the federal suffrage amendment.

This is only the first war tax. In the speech that made sure of the loyalty of men, Mr. Kitchin mentioned a probable tax of five billion before the next fiscal year is over. And that in turn may be followed by a greater.

To raise these vast sums the government will need fullest support from every person in this country. Women today are forced to contribute these war taxes as unrecognized political slaves. It is inconceivable that those who submit to this control should not have a voice in their own government.

The federal suffrage amendment must pass this session.

Congressmen Who Urge Irish Home Rule Lobbied

UNDER the direction of Miss Anne Martin as legislative chairman the Woman's Party lobby in the midst of a feverish session is continuing to bring home to Congress the fact that the suffragists of this nation are keeping their watchfires burning.

The action of one hundred and thirty-two members of the House of Representatives who cabled to Premier Lloyd-George last week asking that he further a quick settlement of the Irish question by giving Ireland home rule, fired the lobby, composed of women from many widely separated states, to renewed effort for the amendment. As many of these Congressmen as could be reached this week were interviewed and advised that such zeal for democracy if advocated at home would carry the federal suffrage amendment to victory.

MANY of the Congressmen had never considered the inconsistency of their stand and readily admitted it. Carl C. Van Dyke of Minnesota who has heretofore taken a non-committal attitude on suffrage, admitted that the stand of the administration toward women was undemocratic; but added that this discrimination was not our only undemocratic sin. He declared that Miss Rankin's war vote in the House had done more for suffrage than anything that had happened this session: "Miss Rankin is your best advertisement," said Van Dyke, "She is standing for complete democracy."

Representative Thomas L. Blanton of Texas said that he was eager to help the suffrage amendment but deplored false movements. He admitted that without the support of the President action at this time is impossible. "I have telegraphed the President my views on suffrage, and he has had many telegrams from my district on the national amendment. I am for any measure that in any way helps a woman. If the President wanted federal suffrage to go through now, it would. Next session, however, whether he wants it to go through or not, we are going to put it through."

Senator La Follette this week declared that he considered suffrage a war measure at this time, though he had not so regarded it until the position of women in the country at this time had been presented by the Woman's Party. He promised to speak in favor of suffrage in this new light at this session.

Senator Henry F. Hollis of New Hampshire, of the Senate Suffrage Committee, writing of the suffrage amendment, now before their committee, said this week, "I am heartily in favor of passing the Anthony amendment. The matter is now before our Suffrage Committee, and I hope for a favorable report soon."

Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California also said this week, "I believe very earnestly in the extension of suffrage to all the women of the nation, and when this measure arises in Congress it will have not only my vote, but the most earnest and enthusiastic support I can give it."

All Parties to Plead for Suffrage before President, Senate Suffrage and Judiciary Committees

A POWERFUL group of political leaders on May 14 will urge upon President Wilson at a conference which the President has consented to meet the need of the immediate passage of the federal suffrage amendment. These political leaders, representing the progressive elements of all parties, are the committee appointed last month in St. Louis at the Progressive Convention to go before the President urging the necessity of suffrage as a war measure.

The men who will speak to the President will be J. A. H. Hopkins, chairman of the committee, representing the Progressive Party; Dr. Ira Landrith, representing the Prohibition Party; Hon. David I. Walsh, representing the Independent Democrats; Dr. E. A. Rumely, representing the Progressive Republicans, John Spargo, representing the Socialist Party, and Samuel Gompers, representing Organized Labor. Miss Mabel Vernon, secretary of the National Woman's Party, is the only woman who will speak for suffrage as the representative of the youngest of the national parties, the party with national suffrage as its sole plank. It was through Miss Vernon, who urged this action upon the Progressive Convention in St. Louis, that this powerful political group decided to make an appeal for national suffrage.

The committee will appear before the President on May 14, and on the next day will speak before the Senate Suffrage Committee in the Senate Building at the Capitol.

The speakers before the Senate Suffrage Committee, May 15, will be John Spargo, of the Socialist Party; J. A. H. Hopkins, of the Progressive Party; Dr. Rumely of the New York *Evening Mail,* Progressive Republican, and David I. Walsh, of Massachusetts, Independent Democrat. Miss Mabel Vernon, secretary of the National Woman's Party is also the only woman speaker at this hearing.

Following the Senate hearing the Progressive Committee will appear before the House Judiciary Committee. This is the first hearing on the federal amendment which has been granted by the Judiciary Committee this session. In addition to the Committee from the St. Louis Convention the Woman's Party will be represented by Miss Anne Martin as chairman; Dr. Olympia Brown, Mrs. Donald Hooker, Mrs. William Kent, Mrs. Robert Baker, Mrs. John Rogers and Miss Lucy Burns of New York, both members of the Executive Committee.

The Judiciary Committee will also grant the floor to other speakers, within its discretion, as this session will be the only hearing on suffrage during the life of the present emergency Congress. For this reason the hearing will last all day, from ten to one in the morning and two to four in the afternoon.

A dinner will be tendered the Progressive Committee on Monday evening, May 14, by the Executive Committee of the Woman's Party, this brilliant official affair at which several members of the House and Senate will be present to be held at the Woman's Party Headquarters.

Among the Progressive Committee are some of the most powerful special pleaders in the country: Dr. Landrith, prohibition candidate for President, was the principal speaker of the great prohibition special that toured the country before the last election. John Spargo is one of the notable speakers of the Socialist group; and Samuel Gompers is one of the great labor speakers.

A MEMORIAL will be presented to the President by the committee embodying the views of progressives, and including the Resolution addressed to the President from the St. Louis Convention which was:

"Whereas at a time the United States is entering into an international war to fight for 'democracy,' for 'the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments,' it is most imperative that we first establish democracy in our own country by giving political freedom to our women citizens.

"Therefore, be it resolved that one from each of the following groups—National Woman's Party, Progressive Party, Progressive Republican Party, Progressive Democratic Party, Prohibition Party, Socialist Party and Organized Labor, be requested by the Chair to serve on a committee which shall go to Washington to present to the President and to the Congress of the United States the demand of this Convention for the immediate submission of an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising women."

This occasion marks the first official recognition of all parties of the Woman's Party, as a powerful political factor at the present time and in the future political contests in this country.

Edna Story Latimer

By Emily A. Doetsch

THE death of Mrs. Edna Story Latimer in California this week came as a shock to her friends in Washington, Baltimore and other Eastern cities where she was a much loved figure among suffragists who have marshalled their forces in the last four years to fight for the federal suffrage amendment.

IT is because Mrs. Latimer had so much to live for and to work for that her sudden and tragic death takes on a terrible poignancy. She died Sunday, April 29, in a San Francisco hotel as the result of burns received in a hotel fire. About three weeks before her death, George W. Latimer, her husband, received a letter from her saying that she had been burned, but telling him not to worry as the injury was slight. Mrs. Latimer either greatly underestimated the extent of her hurt, or overestimated her own strength in combatting it. It was characteristic of her whole life that she choose to battle quietly for her recovery without unduly alarming her family and so it was through a nurse at the Fairmount Hospital that Mr. Latimer had the first intimation that his wife was seriously ill.

His hurried departure for San Francisco with his ten-year-old daughter, Patience, however, did not bring him to San Francisco quickly enough to see his wife before she died. The news of her death reached him in a telegram which was handed to him at a station in Nebraska.

TO suffragists in Maryland, in the National Capital, and in Kansas, Mrs. Edna Storey Latimer, the "Little General" as we called her, would need, if she were living, no introduction. No doubt, the news of her quiet, persistent, hopeful activities have also sifted across the boundaries of other states. Her work in Kansas and in Delaware certainly attracted nation-wide comment, particularly that in Kansas where she and Miss Lola Carson Trax about two years ago waged war against certain Democratic politicians who were blocking the path of the federal amendment and secured their defeat. For this they were rewarded with the most glowing

Edna Story Latimer

accounts in Kansas, which were copied in many other states, making the name of the "Little General" familiar to suffragists all over the country.

But no account of her brave, unflinching work can do justice to the woman. She was such a gentle little person and worked so unassumingly that one hardly knew she was at a thing until it was done.

Mrs. Latimer had no personal ambition. The local suffrage presidents and the members of the National Woman's Party knew that when there was hard work to be done "somewhere," no matter how far, Mrs. Latimer could usually be depended upon to do it.

MRS. LATIMER was one of the very first Maryland women to see the great importance of standing behind the federal amendment and, once the conviction was clear, she followed it unwaveringly. "Be sure you're right, then go ahead" was exemplified every day of her life, and the harrowing old question "What will people say?" never bothered her for an instant. This spirit gave her a certain gallantry of outlook. In 1914 she undertook a suffrage hike to Annapolis to impress the state legislature. She didn't let the consciousness of the pain she was giving many old-time suffragists by embarking on so strange an adventure interfere with that hike. She merely showed conscientious and other objectors that because a thing had never been done before it was not therefore wrong, and she succeeded in getting for suffrage in Maryland an amount of publicity it had not had for months.

Mrs. Latimer's purpose in going West was to purchase a ranch for her 19-year-old son, Alfred Story. Just before she left, Mrs. Latimer suggested to his wife that while in the West she might establish a residence there, and add one more voter to the ranks that are fighting for the federal suffrage amendment. She announced this to be her purpose at a meeting of the Just Government League in January.

A Fellow Worker's Appreciation

By Mabel Vernon

EVERYONE who knew Edna Story Latimer felt the indomitable spirit of determination to win the national enfranchisement of women which characterized all her work. She was filled with a burning sense of indignation that women should be compelled to battle for political freedom in a nation which lays claim to democracy, and she was willing to give up her life to the work of establishing justice for women. It was the spirit she had gained as a little girl from a mother who worked and spoke for suffrage in the early days of the movement when the mother and the child she took with her on her speaking trips were commonly hooted at and assailed with missiles by crowds who scorned those who stood for "Woman's Rights."

Mrs. Latimer insisted that the struggle of women for suffrage must end quickly and for that reason she devoted herself to work for the federal amendment. The work she did in Maryland, Kansas and Delaware was particularly notable because when she started a piece of work she left no stone unturned, no detail unattended to, that complete success might follow. She was remarkable in thinking of ingenious devices in a campaign and was unsparing of herself in carrying them out, while she showed her organizing ability in getting the assistance of others and making them enthusiastic about the work in hand.

MRS. LATIMER was extremely impatient of the idea that women must "keep on educating" in order to get suffrage and fairly faced the fact that the way to win is through political action. She had a keen political sense that fitted her to deal with politicians in a manner that demanded their respect and oftentimes aroused their fear of the knowledge women are obtaining.

Leaders in Kansas still remember her and the remarkable campaign she conducted there in 1914 when she travelled all over the state speaking in the most remote districts reached by long fatiguing motor trips over the plains. It was the usual thing for her to go without sleep and often without food, but she accomplished her purpose of making a political party realize that national suffrage is an issue in national campaigns.

A month after this strenuous work she offered her services to the Congressional Union in Delaware for an active campaign in that state to procure action by the legislature. She considered that Delaware offered an excellent opportunity, and if she could help it was not her nature to refuse no matter what the sacrifice might be. It was her plan to send the "Votes for Women Flyer" (as our Ford was called) all over the little state stopping at cross-roads and tiny settlements that pressure might be brought to bear upon the

legislature. By this whirlwind campaign which Mrs. Latimer conceived and then helped to carry out in every detail more publicity was procured and more sentiment for suffrage aroused than had ever before existed in Delaware. It was necessary to carry on this campaign in the winter months, but no matter how cold the weather or how fatiguing the day's work, often including seven or eight speeches in the open air, Mrs. Latimer was never complaining and always "game."

THOSE who have worked at the national headquarters in Washington have an appreciation of Mrs. Latimer gained by her invariable willingness to come to the rescue at a critical moment. Last year when the envoys of the Suffrage Special returned to Washington much of the success of their reception was due to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Latimer who devoted herself and her car for weeks beforehand to preparing for them. She spoke indefatigably on the streets that people might hear of the political power of women and of the response of the women voters to the appeal of the Suffrage Special. She made arrangements for a wonderful welcome at Union Station and at the Capitol, and it was all done with her characteristic thoroughness.

Mrs. Latimer was an inspiration to the young women who came to national headquarters to prepare for work in the field, initiating them into the art of street speaking and filling them with her own courage and enthusiasm.

Those who met Mrs. Latimer casually were always attracted to her. She was gentle in manner and kindly to all with whom she came into contact. Underneath her quiet bearing could be felt the force and depth of her character. Those who knew her loved her. She was such a brave spirit and as unflinchingly loyal to friends as to the cause for which she worked.

The Political Committee of the National Woman's Party

THE Political Committee of the National Woman's Party this week came into active existence in Washington, with Mrs. Abby Scott Baker as chairman and Miss Mary Gertrude Fendall as secretary, with a sub-committee to be appointed by the chairman. The new group promises to become one of the most effective means of reaching all organizations and individuals who are in a position to further politically the federal suffrage amendment.

The Commitee will keep in active touch with all possible national organizations, such as state and national grange associations, political organizations and national secret orders. The leaders of political parties, foreign commissioners, governors of states who visit the Capital, will all be reached by the political committee if they can make a definite contribution to the campaign for the enfranchisement of women.

All progressive minority parties such as the Progressive, the Labor, the Prohibition and Socialist will be consulted through their leaders by Mrs. Baker's Committee. Leaders of the Farmer's Non-Partisan League whose stand in favor of suffrage is assured will also be asked to cooperate for the passage of the federal amendment.

GREAT conventions meeting in Eastern cities will all be approached to spread the knowledge of just where the opposition to national enfranchisement for women really comes from. Such a convention meets at an early date in Washington in the national convention of state governors. The governors of this country now about to convene will find more than a third of their body from suffrage states and may be expected as a body to take a stand for federal suffrage.

The secret orders of this country, forming one of the most powerful and far-reaching groups of rank and file citizens, by cooperating with national suffrage workers will spread the record of the present battle for complete democracy to the remotest cities. This week one such powerful order signified its willingness to cooperate with the Woman's Party.

The Woman's Benefit Association of the Maccabees, with a membership of thousands in every section of the country, this week in a stirring letter to their membership asked them to appeal to the Senators and Representatives of their districts for support of the federal amendment. The communication is an official notice of the order.

Mrs. Robert W. Baker
Chairman of the Political Committee

THE WOMAN'S BENEFIT ASSOCIATION
OF THE MACCABEES
Home Office Building,
Port Huron, Mich., April 25, 1917.
Official Notice No. 6, 1917
Regarding
Federal Amendment on Woman Suffrage

To All Local Reviews in the United States:

Dear Sisters:

Never at any time in the past have I unduly urged the members of our Association to take an active stand in favor of woman suffrage. However, it now seems to me that the time has come for the women of the United States to stand shoulder to shoulder and appeal to Congress for the immediate submission of the Federal Amendment extending full suffrage to the women of the United States.

Women are now being called to aid the government in the prosecution of war, in defense of the Nation's interests. Without their aid and patriotism this war could not be conducted.

The women of our Association have, by their business ability and acknowledged success in the business world, proven their ability to think and act in matters of public importance. Moreover, as an insurance Association, our business interests are affected. Legislation and amendments to state constitutions are being annually proposed upon which, for our self protection, we ought to have a direct voice.

As you may know we have insurance on the lives of our members—who are all women—of over one hundred and thirty-one millions of dollars. Our reserves in hand invested in municipal securities are over ten millions of dollars.

Our Society has a record in the business world of never having lost a dollar in investments made, bank deposits, or dishonesty of its officials. Do you not think women who are successful in public affairs of this character, and who are to be relied upon in the Nation's defense should have a voice in the administration of its affairs?

Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, and all the provinces of Canada but one have extended the franchise to their women. Surely the men of this great democracy will not permit women to suffer the humiliation of seeing the women of England, of Canada, of Russia, and, possibly, of Germany, enfranchised before political freedom is granted to the women of the United States.

In view of the present crisis it is eminently proper that Congress should take immediate action on the Federal Amendment granting woman suffrage throughout the nation, thus placing all women of this greatest democracy on an equal footing.

I am enclosing herewith a form of resolutions which may be of assistance to you in formulating an appeal to the Congressmen and Senators from your district. Individual members of the review who are interested in the enfranchisement of women will doubtless be glad to circulate petitions and secure as many signatures as possible, and forward same without delay to your representatives in Congress. A sample form petition is enclosed herewith.

Fraternally yours,
(Miss) BINA M. WEST,
Supreme Commander.

ATTEST:
(Miss) FRANCIS D. PARTRIDGE,
Supreme Record Keeper.

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Press Comments

Putting It Mildly

THE distinguished visitors have had a chance to see the pickets in front of the White House. These constitute one of the nation's most interesting exhibitions; not so fiercely imposing, perhaps, as the Horse Guards of London, nor so airily picturesque as the coryphees of the Paris Opera, but representative of a phase of the country's life and thought which no student can afford to ignore.—*Washington, D. C., Evening Star, April* 26.

Where It Counts

WITH every grant by another state of woman suffrage in the Presidential elections, the demand of women in neighboring commonwealths for an equal voice in national affairs becomes harder to withstand.—*New York Evening Post, April* 20.

Futile Opposition

NO thinking person longer doubts the complete success of suffrage at a comparatively early date. Like the prohibition movement, its first successes were precarious, but now it is gaining strength at a rapidly accelerating rate and its opponents are on the defensive. * * * Suffrage no longer hangs in the balance; its sweep is irresistible, and the opposition is as futile as King Canute before this inrushing tide of new democracy.—*St. Paul Pioneer Press, April* 30.

The "Solid West" versus The "Solid South"

IN the general election last November New York for the first time in its history could not send as many voters to the polls as did another state! That other state was Illinois where the women voted and so materially increased the popular vote that New York was forced to take second place.

West of the Mississippi there were twelve states in which the women voted for the presidential electors—a solid block of "Square Deal States" that is to be known as the "Solid West," just as the "Solid South" was once representative of staunch Democracy.

Since November, North Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Rhode Island have been added to the list of states in which women are recognized as citizens in the matter of presidential suffrage.

Illinois will either demand that her 27 electoral votes be increased to 54 electoral votes or that New York's 39 electoral votes be reduced to 19!

And in every other state where the popular vote has been doubled, the demand will be made—and obviously with justice—that the number of electors be proportionately increased, or that other states in which the number of popular votes have not been increased at the same rate shall have their share of the electoral college proportionately reduced!

A few years ago an argument of this kind would have seemed ridiculous but those who have knowledge of the force of the suffrage movement throughout the country—those who know that there are now 8,000,000 women in the United States eligible to vote for presidential electors—are well aware that it is the height of folly for any state to think to block the sweep of the current by refusing citizenship rights to its own women, when other states are rushing toward greater political power by the acquisition of their women's votes!

The "Solid South" has long been a power, but bereft of half its voting strength in the electoral college it will no longer be the courted section that has so proudly stood for unwavering democracy through the years!—*Miami, Fla., Metropolis, April.*

The World Notices It

RABBIS Clash on Suffrage Amendment—. Headline.

Measured by the amount of animosity it excites, suffrage must be making remarkable progress.—*The New York World, April* 24.

Sincere Democracy

WE are professing greatly, great principles of universal democracy. We are seeking to develop and make secure the maximum of national strength—seeking to make available every resource of our national life. There is no item in possible national advance which more precisely fits into the assertion of universal democracy than extension of the suffrage to women. Democracy means one thing, which is rule by the people; and we are gradually arriving at the fact that "women are people." Efficiency is inseparable from utilization of a complete equipment. Until we have the votes of women as well as those of men we are not using a complete equipment.

Adoption of the Anthony amendment should be urged as an essential part of the patriotic program in this time of war—as a measure of sincere democracy, as a leverage for maximum democratic authority. At no time in our country's history has woman suffrage had a more logical case than it has today. The presence of Miss Rankin in Congress, and her leadership of the renewed active campaign, ought to be enough to put the thing through.

If the President should decide to bring his personal pressure to bear in the same direction the fight would be won. We hope that President Wilson will make use of this opportunity to apply at home those admirable principles of democracy which we all now seek to see established throughout the world.—*Boston Record, April* 21.

Financial Report

Treasurer: Miss Gertrude L. Crocker
Assistant Treasurer: Miss Maud Jamison
Bank of Deposit: American Security and Trust Co.
Washington, D, C.

Auditors: Marwick, Mitchell Peat & Company

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD $300,000 FUND FOR SECURING THE PASSAGE OF THE FEDERAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Make checks payable to the "Treasurer of the National Woman's Party," 21 Madison Place, Washington, D. C.

List o Contributions from April 28 Through May 5, 1917

Per Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont:	
Mrs. Marsden Perry...	100.00
Per Mrs. Ella Morton Dean:	
Mrs. John Jay White...	5.00
Mrs. Calvin Tomkins:	
Bag Sale.....	200.00
Current Events Class..	46.00
Mrs. Clarence M. Smith..	50.00
Miss J. S. Jennings (collected)	1.00
Mr. Willman Parker	5.00
Mrs. Gilson Gardner.....	1.00
Miss Muriel Smith	1.00
Mrs. John Rogers, Jr.....	10.00
New Jersey Branch	100.00
Mrs. Annette E. McCrea.	5.00
Mrs. Alden H. Potter....	25.00
Mrs. Charles W. Norris..	25.00
Miss F. M. Crosthwaite...	1.00
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Mr. William Kent.....	5.00
Mrs. Tom Dyott.....	1.00
Miss Anita L. Bulmer....	2.00
Delaware Branch	26.00
Mrs. Thomas L. Chadbourne, Jr.	100.00
Mr. James M. Leopold...	25.00
Mrs. M. M. Brearley.....	1.00
Anonymous	12.00
Membership fees	26.75
Total collected by National Headquarters	778.75
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST.....	229,597.82
Total collected by National Headquarters through May 5, 1917.....	$230,376.57

Contributions Made to Illinois Headquarters:

Per Mrs. McCrea's Committee:	
Proceeds from card party	12.00
Contributions	8.00
Pledged through Mrs. Linton	1.00
Collections	9.00
Miss Frances Frothingham	3.00
Mrs. E. T. Lee	5.00

Contributions Made to the District of Columbia Branch:

Miss Myrtle Stenson	1.00
Miss A. R. Stearns.....	1.00
Mrs. Harvey Wiley.....	1.00
Collection	12.05
Miss Helen Munroe.....	5.00

Contributions Made to Massachusetts Headquarters:

Mrs. Kate Wendell Townsend	50.00
Mrs. Harvey Chase.....	10.00
Mrs. Edward Lanning ...	6.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond.	1.00
Mrs. James Sever.....	2.00
Mrs. Willard Reed.....	1.00
Mrs. Charles Hosmer....	1.00
Miss Fitz	.50
Mrs. Olive H. Hasbrouck.	3.00
Mrs. Julia A. Slade.....	5.00
Miss Elizabeth Marot.....	2.00
A Friend	10.00
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Mrs. Calvin Austin.....	25.00
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Miss L. J. C. Daniels.....	10.00
Miss Albertina Von Arnim	11.00
Miss Grace Henshaw	200.00
Mrs. Henry A. Morrill...	200.00
Mrs. Genevieve M. Fuller.	12.00
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Mrs. Alice R. Moore.....	10.00
Miss Etta Paddleford....	5.00
Miss Emma Baxter	2.00
Miss Louise Murdock....	6.00
Mrs. Harriet P. Kimball..	25.00
Mrs. Tucker Daland.....	25.00
Total collected by the Branches	841.55
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST.....	31,604.62
Total collected by Branches through May 5, 1917...	$ 32,446.17
Grand Total	$262,822.74
Deduction:	
Transferred from Branch Headquarters to National Headquarters .....$	1,245.00
Grand Net Total.....	$261,577.74

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